

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 108140

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, CYP

SUBJECT: UNFICYP REDUCTIONS

REF: STATE 98276

1. IN LIGHT OF NUMEROUS INDICATIONS OF RETICENCE TO
TACKLE QUESTION OF FURTHER UNFICYP REDUCTIONS AT THIS TIME,
(E.G. VIENNA 4521) DEPT HAS CONCLUDED IT WOULD BE PRUDENT
TO DEFER TABLING DETAILED SUGGESTIONS ON FUTURE SIZE AND
ROLE OF UNFICYP PER PARA 6 REFTTEL UNTIL AFTER MAY 29 SC
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MEETING. EXACT TIMING OF SUCH APPROACH MAY DEPEND IN PART

ON DEVELOPMENTS IN SC. WE DO NOT WISH TO RISK STIMULATING REACTIONS AT THIS STAGE WHICH COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR OBJECTIVE THAT SC MEETING TO EXTEND MANDATE TAKE PLACE WITHOUT DEVELOPMENTS OR STATEMENTS WHICH WOULD MAKE LATER NEGOTIATIONS FOR REDUCTIONS MORE DIFFICULT.

2. FOR USUN: WE SHARE UK OBSERVATION (LONDON 5872 AND 6025) THAT IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF OUR APPROACH IS TO GAIN SYG'S SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR FURTHER REDUCTIONS, OR AT MINIMUM HAVE HIM SAY NOTHING THAT WOULD INHIBIT ADDITIONAL REDUCTIONS. WE ALSO HOPE SYG CAN AVOID SUGGESTING NEED FOR REVISION OF MANDATE FOR EITHER SMALL OR SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS. THUS WE ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO OVERCOMING SECRETARIAT RESISTANCE TO FURTHER REDUCTIONS AND ITS

TENDENCY TO RAISE MANDATE REVISION ISSUE IN THIS CONNECTION. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION SHOULD FOLLOW UP WITH SYG AND SENIOR SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS AS SC MEETING APPROACHES IN ORDER OBTAIN MOST HELPFUL LANGUAGE POSSIBLE IN ANY SYG STATEMENTS OR REPORTS TO SC. YOU SHOULD URGE UK AND CANADIAN MISSIONS TO MAKE PARALLEL OR SIMILAR APPROACHES TO SYG ALONG THESE LINES.

3. IN DISCUSSING MANDATE ISSUE, MISSION MAY WISH DRAW ON FOLLOWING RECAPITULATION OF DEPARTMENT VIEWS. IN SC RES OF MARCH 4, 1964, UNSC QUOTE RECOMMENDS THAT THE FUNCTION OF THE FORCE SHOULD BE, IN THE INTEREST OF PRESERVING INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, TO USE ITS BEST EFFORTS TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF FIGHTING AND, AS NECESSARY, TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION OF LAW AND ORDER AND A RETURN TO NORMAL CONDITIONS. UNQUOTE. MOREOVER, RES QUOTE ASKS GOVT OF CYPRUS, WHICH HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION OF LAW AND ORDER, TO TAKE ALL ADDITIONAL MEASURES NECESSARY TO STOP VIOLENCE AND BLOODSHED IN CYPRUS UNQUOTE AND QUOTE CALLS UPON THE COMMUNITIES IN CYPRUS AND THEIR LEADERS TO ACT WITH THE UTMOST RESTRAINT. UNQUOTE. THUS RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING PEACE AND INTERNAL ORDER RESTS CLEARLY WITH PARTIES; UNFICYP HAS ONLY A SUPPORTIVE ROLE. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. IN OPERATING UNDER THIS MANDATE, AND IN ACCORDANCE TRADITIONAL UN PEACEKEEPING PRACTICE, UNFICYP HAS NEVER INTERPOSED ITSELF MILITARILY BETWEEN HOSTILE FORCES AND HAS PERMITTED ARMED UNITS TO CROSS ITS LINES. ITS CONTRIBUTION TO STABILITY HAS BEEN AS A SYMBOLIC BUFFER AND OBJECTIVE OBSERVER RATHER THAN AS A MILITARY FORCE PER SE. WE SEE FUNCTIONS OF A FUTURE, SMALLER UNFICYP

AS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME: A SYMBOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND UN CONCERN, AN OBJECTIVE OBSERVER/MEDIATOR TO REASSURE THE COMMUNITIES AND PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF RESOLVING LOCAL INCIDENTS AND CRISES. IN FUTURE, RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF INTERNAL SECURITY AND STABILITY WOULD STILL REST WITH THE GOC AND TWO COMMUNITIES. AN OBSERVER/MEDIATOR UNFICYP WOULD STILL QUOTE USE ITS BEST EFFORTS TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF FIGHTING UNQUOTE AND WOULD QUOTE CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION OF LAW AND ORDER AND RETURN TO NORMAL CONDITIONS. UNQUOTE. THUS WE ARE CONVINCED THAT A SMALLER UNFICYP CAN OPERATE EFFECTIVELY TO FULFILL

THE FUNCTIONS OUTLINED IN 1964 RES WITHOUT CHANGE IN SC MANDATE.

5. IN ADDITION, REDUCTIONS IN PAST (FROM PEAK OF 6369 IN NOVEMBER 1964 TO 2322 AT END OF PHASE II THIS JUNE) HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT UNDERMINING UNFICYP EFFECTIVENESS AND WITH NO DIRECT IMPACT ON POLITICAL STABILITY IN CYPRUS. SINCE WITHDRAWAL OF GREEK CONTINGENTS IN 1967, PRECISE SIZE OF UNFICYP HAS NEVER BEEN FACTOR IN DEGREE OF SECURITY ENJOYED BY EITHER COMMUNITY. REGARDLESS ITS ACTUAL SIZE, UNFICYP HAS BEEN UNWILLING AND PERHAPS UNABLE TO DETER OR PREVENT DETERMINED EFFORT BY ONE SIDE (E.G. NATIONAL GUARD) TO OVERRUN OTHER (E.G. TURK CYPRIOTS). ON OTHER HAND, MINOR INCIDENTS COULD BE HANDLED EQUALLY EFFECTIVELY BY SMALLER FORCE. POINT IS NOT WHETHER DANGER OF INCREASED INTERCOMMUNAL VIOLENCE EXISTS, BUT THAT UNFICYP IS TOO LARGE FOR THE ROLE IT HAS PLAYED OR CAN BE EXPECTED TO PLAY IN FACE ANY DETERMINED EFFORT BY PARTIES.

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6. WHILE WE BELIEVE REDUCTIONS PER SE COULD BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT DIRECT ADVERSE IMPACT ON CYPRUS SITUATION, WE RECOGNIZE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS AND GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS WILL WEIGH HEAVILY IN CALCULATIONS OF OTHERS. US HAS LONG LOOKED FORWARD TO PROGRESSIVE REDUCTIONS IN UNFICYP AND FOR REASONS OF EFFICIENCY AND ECONOMY WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE REDUCTIONS ARE NECESSARY AND FEASIBLE. IN CURRENT SITUATION, WE BELIEVE PARTIES AND MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS SHOULD CONTINUE CLOSE CONSULTATIONS LOOKING TOWARD EARLY AGREEMENT ON FUTURE SIZE, ROLE, AND METHOD OF OPERATION OF UNFICYP WHICH CAN EFFECTIVELY FULFILL ITS ASSIGNED FUNCTIONS, AS WELL AS ON NATURE AND TIMING OF STEPS TO REACH THIS AGREED GOAL. RUSH

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